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JUDGE McCULLEN GOVERNOR SPROUL'S appointment of Joseph P. McCullen to the judgeship in Common Pleas Court No. 4 left vacant by the death of Judge Carr was a wise choice

THE END OF THE SESSION SOME of the laws for which Governor Sproul congratulated the Legislature at the hour of its adjournment were advanced and constructive

THE PRESIDENT'S RETURN IT IS reasonable to believe that Mr. Wilson's first public address after his arrival from Paris will be one of the most important and weighty of his career

THE OUTWORN ARMY CODE LEUTENANT COLONEL ANSELL'S determined criticism of the army court-martial system, made in the face of objections by the secretary of war and his advisers, continues to be inspired by an obvious sense of justice and patriotism

knows how soon new national emergencies may arise, Americans have a right to expect that their military service will be received in the spirit in which it is tendered

THE country owes a debt to Colonel Ansell for his address before the Bar Association at Bedford Springs. If the War Department cannot mitigate the superfluous rigors of the army court-martial system then it is time for Congress to take a hand in the matter

NEW GAG LAW TURNS LEGAL PRINCIPLES BOTTOM SIDE UP

"Anti-Sedition" Bill Muzzling Free Men Makes a Crime Where There is No Criminal Intent

IF THE men who drafted the "anti-sedition" bill, signed today by Governor Sproul, had deliberately sought to frame a law which would result in the perversion of justice they could not have done a more perfect piece of work

The measure is avowedly directed against terrorists. We are told that there is no purpose to interfere with the freedom of speech either in the newspapers or in public assemblies. In order to make the purpose clear the Legislature was asked to change the phraseology of the bill so that certain actions entered upon with intent to produce certain results should be defined as seditious and punishable by fine or imprisonment

No man can forget the effects which his words will have upon an ill-balanced brain. When Senator Conkling fought President Garfield over the appointment of a collector for the port of New York he was engaged in a perfectly legitimate political struggle over the distribution of patronage

The President had promised to consult the New York senators, Roscoe Conkling and Thomas C. Platt, before making any appointment in their state. He broke his promise and appointed a collector offensive to them. They protested and resigned their seats to seek vindication through re-election and thus to rebuke the President. Their conduct incited Giteau to nurse his grievance, which arose from his inability to get an appointment which he had been seeking, and his crazy brain conceived the idea of assassinating the President

The conduct of Conkling and Platt "tended" to bring about the killing of Garfield. And if we had had a federal statute as loosely drawn as the one which has just been tacked upon this commonwealth it is morally certain that the political enemies of the two New York senators would have demanded that they be indicted under it and haled into court on the charge of committing acts which "tended" to bring about the murder of the President and faced sentences of twenty years in prison

Government Sproul erred in signing the bill. The possibility of a miscarriage of justice where actual violence is done is so certain that the bill in its present form should have been vetoed without a moment's hesitation. It makes a crime where there is no intent and reverses all legal principles

But where no violence is done, or even contemplated, the bill opens the way for the punishment by twenty years in prison of reputable citizens and the editors and owners of reputable newspapers engaged in their patriotic duty of protesting against grave abuses in government. It defines as seditious any act "which tends to incite or encourage any person or persons to commit any overt act with a view to bringing the government of this state or of the United States into hatred or contempt"

This is something new in America. Who shall say when a man is deliberately seeking to bring the government of this state into contempt or when his course, undertaken by some of the highest-minded motives, does actually bring it into contempt? What is the government of the state? Is it the Governor and the members of the Legislature or is it the representative republican institutions with their headquarters in Harrisburg?

We have had a Governor in recent years who would have used such a law as this anti-sedition monstrosity in order to bring about the punishment of his critics. Whether the courts would have found the men he accused guilty of its violation would have depended on whether they were in sympathy with his theories. But it is certain that scores of men exercising the right of free speech would have been compelled to defend in court the exercise of that right

The bill not only makes it seditious to bring the government into contempt; but to bring, distribute or give away any publications which tend to produce such a result or to organize or become a member of any assembly, society or group the purposes of which are to produce such contempt is also defined as seditious

It is conceivable that such conditions may arise in this state that its most patriotic and public-spirited citizens would organize for the purpose of forcing from power a corrupt government in Harrisburg. The bill is so loosely drawn that this hypothetical corrupt government could exercise every member of such an organization of seditious and demand of seditious judges that the maximum penalty be inflicted. And the judges and not the juries would decide the crucial point on which the guilt or innocence must rest. The judges would interpret the law and instruct the juries that such-and-such conduct "tended to bring the government into contempt" and that if the accused were guilty of such conduct then they must be convicted

For the sake of punishing a few Bolsheviks it is a most grievous blunder to give to those men who wish to silence their critics the opportunity to muzzle and gag every honest and independent citizen and every high-minded newspaper

by a prospective prison sentence of twenty years and by a fine of \$10,000. Even assuming that such a measure were necessary, this bill is so badly drawn that the Governor ought not to have hesitated to veto it. But it is not necessary, for all the real offenses against which it is directed are already covered by the existing laws, as we pointed out some weeks ago and as its opponents in the Legislature have said time after time

But if the bill were perfectly drawn and the offenses against which it is supposed to be directed were not already covered by statute, it ought not to have become a law, for the principle on which it is based is fundamentally wrong. It rests on the accused Hun theory of the sanctity of the state. It attempts to make it a more heinous offense to attack a public official than to attack a private citizen. It makes it a crime to do anything which would bring the state into contempt, as though the state were a more sacred thing than its citizens

We have been fighting Prussianism and we have defeated it on the battlefield—that Prussianism which has insisted that the citizen exists for the state instead of the state for the citizen, and now in this great free commonwealth, founded by free men who have created the state to serve them, we have embodied in our laws a medieval theory, the application of which in this era has plunged the world into the most bloody war since jealous hatred caused the first murder

It may be that less majestic to be made a crime, but we are not yet ready to believe that a commonwealth of free men will tolerate such an anachronism

A DAY FOR EVERY DRINK NOW that July 1 has been proclaimed by the Department of Agriculture as Buttermilk Day, the devotees of other beverages are likely to demand that the claims of their favorite potation be similarly recognized

Take switchel, for example, that beverage compounded of molasses and ginger and vinegar and water, usually drunk from a jug, deserves a day. It rests in the shade under a tree in the hayfield. The balmy winds of heaven blow over it. In the course of time cool beads of moisture gather on the outside, most tempting to the heated farmer. When he can stand the sun no longer the farmer goes to the jug for a swig of switchel. Swig is the word. No other fits the function at which he assists. By all means there should be a Switchel Day

And a Raspberry Vinegar Day would delight tens of thousands of grandmothers. An Applejuice Day along about the time of Halloween would please many and a Grape Juice Day might be so popular, now that some use must be made of the grapes, that a single day would not suffice, and the celebration might have to be prolonged for a week

Then there would be Lemonade Day and Loganberry Juice Day, and perhaps Cold Water Day on January 16 of every year. There are so many potables possible and popular that before we were through with the job we should be likely to have a day for every drink

WINNIPEG AGAIN ON THE MAP WINNIPEG returns to civilization. After six weeks of industrial strife the general sympathetic strike in the Manitoba metropolis is unconditionally called Bolshevistic. Of course, it wasn't in other western Canadian cities

The manifestation had been loosely called Bolshevistic. Of course, it wasn't anything of the sort any more than Canada is Russia. It was a grandiose protest by leaders who sought to capitalize unwarrantably panicky feelings regarding radicalism

But as Petrograd's problems and Petrograd's cast of mind are not Winnipeg's, the uprising could not be acclimated. Strikes, whether one likes them or not, are common occurrences on the western continent. Sovietism is an exotic and will invariably wither in such environment

Mr. Burleson, in an interview with Federation of Labor officials, "stoutly opposed" the employment of telegraphers who recently went out on a strike. The strikers, it may be said, stoutly resent the employment of Mr. Burleson

Words, it seems, will be a fashionable diet in Washington as well as in Berlin, for a few months at least. And some of the round-robinners, when they sit down to read their digests, doubtless will swallow their words as the rest of the country took them, with a grain of salt

George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and all of their great contemporaries were fearless critics of government and governmental officers, and that is why they were able to contribute so greatly to the might and glory of the republic. Under Governor Sproul's gag law each of these patriots would have been liable at one time or another to a twenty-year jail sentence perhaps imposed by a judge whose only qualification for his office was the friendship of adroit politicians

What has become of all the presidential candidates? The peace commissioners will be as happy on Saturday as a boy out of school

The time has come when a great many people are beginning to regret that they didn't start war gardens for the days of peace

It will be vacation time for three whole months in the schools. Who will wonder why men and women yearn for the days of their childhood?

The Independent and Organization councilmen have failed to agree on the loan and will continue their negotiations. But both factions know that they must agree some time

Governor Sproul in appointing Joseph P. McCullen to the Common Pleas Court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Carr has appropriately selected a real, not a fake, Democrat

E. J. Cattell has been made an honorary member of the American Press Humorists' Association, perhaps because he makes more use of the jokes of the active members than any other man in America

A FREE-SPEECH GAG WHICH PROVIA BOOMERANG

The Recoll of Tyrannous Grady-Salus Libel L, Which Penny-Packer Fath, Acquires New Significance Today

THE measure fitly fit for Russia and not for free Asia. The subject of this observation was a law passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania and signed by the Governor in April, 1903. It was a gag law, dangerously superfluous nature of whitewashes significant association with the "anti-sedition" bill now before Governor Sproul. Pennsylvanians haven't forgiven its name nor the justifiably indignant m of protest which it raised

The Grady-Salus libel, which Governor Pennypacker passately fathered "in the hope of escaping the inescapable cartoons," and which Gang railroaded through "in the hope of quizzing the opposition to jobs," evoked memories exclusively in connection with its initial leap into notoriety. The gag of 1903 in this legislation have become comic through desuetude

The law still stands the statute books. Like the pathetic lady Viola's sad little chronicle, however, its sequent history is "a blank." Free speech is the free expression of opinion in Pennsylvania have prevailed. At this moment, on these institutions of enlightened and sized freedom are jeopardized by the hysterical Flynn "anti-sedition" bill, the tale of now moribund Grady-Salus law has penny

Either measure, if seriously observed, would play havoc with principles of liberty for which government in America is supposed to stand. That Governor Pennypacker's net bill failed to do this damage is due to no virtue in that date, but to public common sense, which rejected it

AT THE time of its pass sixteen years ago it appeared detestably formidable, and so in truth it would have come had its extravagant provisions been permitted to be operative. Recognizing the danger, the press of Philadelphia was a unit in denouncing the mouzer

The future passed beyond frontiers. The whole nation was amazed at the spectacle of an anti-sedition law deliberately falling back into oblivion. The hitherto excellent reputation of Samuel W. Pennypacker—that odd command of eccentricity, pedantry, probity, bstinacy and vanity—was smirched and dented by his perverse sponsorship of an act of egregious cruelty. Europe was at first frankly puzzled at the news. When realized how far along the road of repression Pennsylvania was planning to retreat, few comment went beyond perplexity and benevolent condolence

The quotation which begins this article emanates from no American journal nor from any in Britain. France was the first to point in a Berlin newspaper May 16, 1905, and it refers directly to the Grady-Salus libel passed by a servient state Legislature and signed by rautankerous Governor! The contrast between junker, imperialistic, militaristic, being Berlin's opinion of the law and Salus' own opinion of his estimate is at no moment more striking than ever

"THE doctrine of the libel of the press," declared Governor Pennypacker in his Autobiography, "is an abomination which has become harmful, and I time has come when it ought to be discarded alike from constitutions and laws"

It was with this purpose in view, intensified by his egotistic sensitiveness to newspaper criticism, and cartoons, that he chimed in with the political Ganglingulous scheme to throttle exposure of methods. With unique unanimity every journal in Philadelphia resented a high-handed outrage, their opposition being a climax in the public hearing on the measure held in the Harrisburg House of Representatives on April 23, 1904. George Nox McCain, the Governor gessed that he faced "the most imposing array of journalistic talent and ability of any governor ever greeted"

Charles Emory Smith was the delegated spokesman for this onslaught. In ringing sentences he denounced the pernicious application of such a law so utterly and insultingly superfluous, in view of the existence already offered admirably protective and sound law of libel. The new "safeguard" was shown to be either futilely supererogatory or so wickedly tyrannous. Time has happily proved it to be the former, since its operative functions have been subjected to intense

The self-satisfied autobiographical Governor subsequently blundered himself upon tripping Mr. Smith upon a childish technicality, and in the single volume of reminiscences scooped at the editorial argument. But the defense of free speech was confined to the state. The Public Ledger described the bill as "conceivable sin and brought forth in indignity," and dangerous in whole and in part

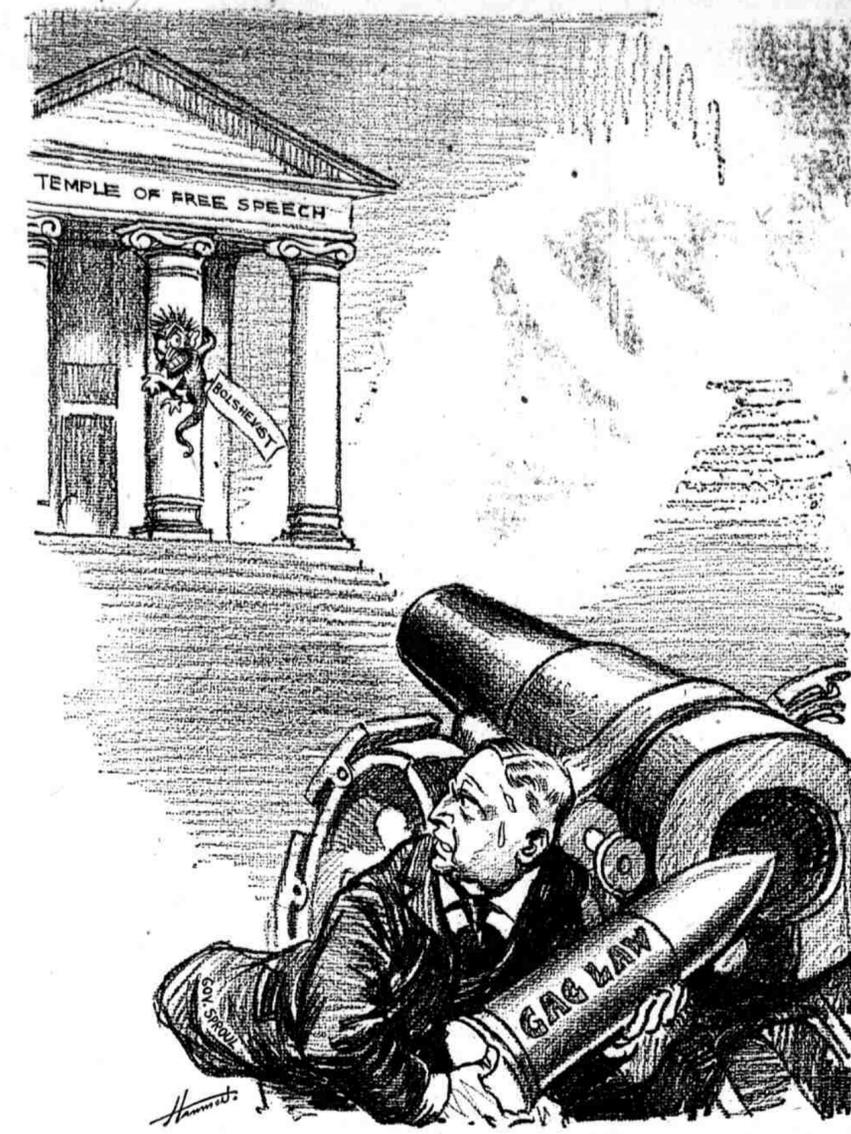
What happened when the measure, officiously at least, came law was an indignity in precisely a sense of fearless frankness which the editor of the Public Ledger would have taken. Cutting, caustic, acrid comment animated in up profession the public press. The familiar libelous forecast that the net effect of the law would be the stimulation of exactly the things it was intended to suppress was dramatically verified. The only feature of it which was operative was the one compelling newspapers to publish their ownship

Otherwise it act became as dead as the political career of Samuel W. Pennypacker, ardent cousin and irrepressible eulogizer of Matthew Stuyvesant. In his personal narrative the Governor admitted that the expressive plank that the newspapers made "snobs" at his. With the characteristic candor fused with his egotism, which leads a piquant and cynical fascination to his Autobiography, the Governor recalls the dulcet days just previous to the passage of the bill when "the newspapers began to make suggestions that I would be the next Republican candidate for the presidency." "This situation," he confesses, "lasted, however, for a very short time." Narration of the Salus-Grady bill is significantly follows. The recoll was profoundly emphatic. Legislative boomerangs have a way of acquiring such intensity

There is a symbolic appropriateness in that plan of the of to the Common Pleas Court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Carr has appropriately selected a real, not a fake, Democrat

Now that the of the great railroad brotherhoods have centered the American Federation of Labor, that organization is the strongest labor body ever created anywhere

DON'T SMASH THE BUILDING, TOO!



THE CHAFFING DISH

Knights of the Round Table

"It is not felt that he is a figure around which the reactionaries and monarchists would gather enthusiastically," says the A. P. of the Crown Prince

Signature to be wrung from Germans, says a merry headline. Exactly, since Doctor Bell is to sign for the enemy

The only trouble about a Palm Beach suit is that it deteriorates rapidly in this faulty world of soap and safety matches

We have an idea that maybe Willie Hohenzollern will find Old Home Week not nearly what he expected

Why Men Leave Home Friday June 27: One of the strange influences attached to the stars at this time is a desire to possess jewelry and precious stones, and, in lieu of these, beads or ornaments. Dealers in such merchandise have the forecast of continued peace

Ninth and Chestnut When the storm comes down on Chestnut street, And pavements hiss with a wet refrain, When a cooling air moves, clean and sweet, Through the stir and rumor of the rain, When horses' backs are dark and sleek, And ankles twinkle nimbly by, Beneath the downpour of the sky, 'How glorious,' I did exclaim: 'I'll have to put this in a rhyme—' A motor-truck ped sloshing came, And plastered me with beaucoup slime

We Lose Our Temper "Peace Council Waiting on Berlin," says a headline in a New York paper that ought to know better

We get very weary of that use of "wait on" where "wait for" is meant. The only person who waits "on" anybody is a waiter. The Peace Council may be waiting for Berlin. It is certainly not waiting on Berlin, or on anything German whatsoever

One of these days it will have to be decided which one of the various ladies exploited by the magazines really was Russia's Joan of Arc

The best-thing we have seen anent the various Russian heroines and grandmothers of the revolution who have toured about this country was the headline of a Chicago paper which ran something like this: Russian Joan of Arc Swings Around the Circle

Which seems a particularly natural thing for an arc to do

The trouble with Joan Barleycorn was that she became a common skol

The visions of the parous bolshevik are mere soap-bubbles, complains a contemporary

Natural enough, since they spring from the soap-box

We nearly spoiled Bill Sykes's vacation for him yesterday when we told him that he had been elected a member of the American Press Humorists

Biography of a Humorist A NUMBER of people have been asking us about this John U. Higginbotham, one of the American Press Humorists, who has and Poor Richard Club luncheons and startling the inmates with his sber-toothed jests. In answer to the frequent query, "What is a humorist and how does he get that way?" we took all the trouble to send one of the Chaffing Dish's smart young men to interview Mr. Higginbotham

WHEN THE WORLD GOES DRY

IN EVER-GROWING numbers They totter to their fall— The walls and forts and sally-ports Of Old King Alcohol. Oh, where in all the nation For comfort shall we fly, And cheer and consolation When the World Goes Dry?

What form of drink or victual Shall be its substitute? In what new shape shall bloom the grape, That sweet, forbidden fruit? What draught shall set men singing And sparkle in the eye, And send the soul a-swinging When the World Goes Dry?

Perhaps the dawnlight's nectar Upon the trees of May Will shine for those who used to dose Until the arid day; Perhaps the dewy gloaming Shall turn the gaze on high Where galaxies are foaming When the World Goes Dry!

Perhaps the eye that's clearer Can see a finer earth; Perhaps the brain more nearly sane Can understand its worth. The ear can hear more laughter When fewer children cry—"Twild some tears hereafter When the World Goes Dry"

We'll find the buried treasure That's just outside the door; And we shall see sublimity We never saw before. And earth shall touch the sky— We'll all get drunk on Beauty When the World Goes Dry. —Ted Robinson, in Cleveland Plain Dealer

What Do You Know?

QUIZ 1. How often is the president of France elected? 2. What two distinguished Americans have just received degrees from Oxford University? 3. What is the origin of the word milliner? 4. How did "Tray" come to be a name for a dog? 5. Where is the German national monument? 6. What is the difference between pathos and bathos? 7. To whom did George Washington address his Farewell Address? 8. Name two books written by Woodrow Wilson prior to the period of his presidency? 9. Why is a wit called a wag? 10. How old is the ex-crown prince of Germany?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. Francesco Nitti is the new premier of Italy. 2. Thomas Paine was the author of the expression, "These are the times that try men's souls." 3. Losantiville was the original name of Cincinnati. 4. A bathos is a horse that carries baggage, as of an officer or others, during a campaign. 5. The Irish name Shawn is the equivalent of John. 6. The Murray is the longest river in Australia. 7. The ex-Empress Eugenie is a native of Grandda, Spain. 8. The Mediterranean is the largest tideless sea in the world. 9. The Troy ounce is the unit in weighing gold. 10. The month of July is named after Julius Caesar.

People in Boston are the people one likes to read poems for. Not long ago we wrote, and printed in this Dish, a light-hearted sonnet about a landlady in a lodging house. It was suggested to us by a notice we found tacked up over a boarding house bathtub, a notice which read: Please Leave the Tub as You Would Wish to Find It. Upon our honor we did not know that we were doing anything except try to exhibit the humors of the lodging house. But now a reviewer in a Boston paper (bless his heart!) tells us what we were up to. In this poem, says the critic, we were picturing an approach to something deeper, the mystery and wonder of life that he had beyond reach. In spite of the caustic language, there is just this mood of the inexplicable behind the curtain of fact

If it's our last word on earth, we say less that critic for finding the hidden meaning we didn't know was there!

Dove Dulcet, by the way, asked us to lend him a line, but we replied, after carefully thinking the matter over, that we don't believe in depositing money in a mounbank. We offered, however, to set up a pannikin of soup. When it's a question of blowing him to a lunch, Dove is as light as a feather.

SOCIATES